

REMARKS

Claims 1, 4, 5, 8-14, 16, 17, 19 and 20 are pending in this application. Claims 10-13 and 16 are withdrawn. Claims 2, 3, 6, 7, 14, 15 and 18 are herein cancelled. Claims 1, 4, 5, 8 and 17 are herein amended. No new matter has been added.

Support for newly amended claims 1, 4, 5, 8 and 17 may be found in the as-originally filed specification, for example see Figures 1A-4D.

I. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112

Claims 1, 3-9, and 17-18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as allegedly failing to comply with the written description requirement. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claims 1, 4, 5, 8 and 17 are herein amended for clarification. Applicants respectfully request that the written description rejection be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Furthermore, the claims of the present application were amended to provide labels, *i.e.*, identifiers, for the claimed elements. For example, the previously presented “third layer” is herein amended to recite “layer A.” Applicants hold that a label, *e.g.* layer A, does not broaden the scope of the claim. Applicants respectfully hold that the allegedly broadening terms are herein deleted and/or amended to provide identifiers for each of the claimed layers of the presently claimed adhesive optical film.

The presently claimed adhesive optical film recites “an outer side edge of the first adhesive layer is located on the inside of an outer side edge of the first optical film and located on the inside of an outer side edge of the layer A.” Support for this claimed feature may be found in the as-originally filed specification, for example see Figures 1A-4B, which illustrate the formation of the outer edge of the first optical film and the first adhesive layer.

The presently claimed adhesive optical film recites “the first optical film is adhered directly upon the first surface of the first adhesive layer and the layer A is adhered directly upon the second surface of the first adhesive layer.” Support for this claimed feature may be found in the as-originally filed specification, for example see Figures 1A-4B, which illustrate the first optical film, first adhesive layer and layer A being laminated together. Thus, Applicants respectfully hold that their as-originally filed specification would reasonably convey to a skilled artisan that Applicants had possession of the presently claimed invention at the time of filing the present application.

Favorable reconsideration is earnestly solicited.

II. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112

Claims 1 and 3-9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claim 1 is herein amended for clarification. In view of this amendment, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection.

III. The Rejection Based on Miyazawa et al.

Claims 1, 3-4, 9, and 18-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) as allegedly being anticipated by Miyazawa et al. (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0191287) (hereinafter Miyazawa) and claims 4-8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Miyazawa et al. (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0191287) (hereinafter Miyazawa). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

In the presently claimed invention, an outer side edge of the first adhesive layer is located on the inside of an outer side edge of the first optical film and located on the inside of an outer side edge of the layer A such that the entire area of the first adhesive layer is sandwiched between the first optical film and the layer A.

As shown in Figures 1A and 2A of the present application, the entire area of an adhesive layer 2 is sandwiched between the optical film 1 and the release film 3. The adhesive layer 2 does not protrude outside the outer side edges of the optical film 1 and the release film 3.

On the other hand, as shown in Figs. 3 and 7 of Miyazawa, the adhesive layer 424 protrudes outside the layer 423 and the layer 421. Thus, Miyazawa does not disclose, teach, suggest or provide any reason for achieving the presently claimed feature of “an outer side edge of the first adhesive layer is located on the inside of an outer side edge of the first optical film and located on the inside of an outer side edge of the layer A such that the entire area of the first adhesive layer is sandwiched between the first optical film and the layer A”.

For at least the reasons herein discussed, Applicants respectfully hold that the presently claimed invention is novel and unobvious from the disclosure of Miyazawa.

Favorable reconsideration is earnestly solicited.

IV. The Rejections Based on Miyazawa et al. in view of Atagi

Claims 1-9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Atagi (JP2000-214324A) (hereinafter Atagi) in view of Miyazawa et al. (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0191287) (hereinafter Miyazawa) and claim 17 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Miyazawa et al. (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0191287) (hereinafter Miyazawa) in view of Atagi (JP20002-14324A) (hereinafter Atagi). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

As discussed above, Miyazawa does not disclose, teach, suggest or provide any reason for achieving the presently claimed feature of “an outer side edge of the first adhesive layer is located on the inside of an outer side edge of the first optical film and located on the inside of an outer side edge of the layer A such that the entire area of the first adhesive layer is sandwiched between the first optical film and the layer A”. Applicants respectfully hold that the disclosure of Atagi does not overcome at least this deficiency of Miyazawa. Thus, the combined reading of Miyazawa and Atagi fails to render the presently claimed invention obvious.

In addition, Atagi discloses, in Fig.6, the first optical film 24, the adhesive layer 23, and the second optical film 22. However, the outer side edge of the adhesive layer 23 is not located on the inside of an outer side edge of the first optical film 24. Thus, Atagi also fails to disclose, teach, suggest or provide any reason for achieving the presently claimed feature of “an outer side edge of the first adhesive layer is located on the inside of an outer side edge of the first optical

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film and located on the inside of an outer side edge of the layer such that the entire area of the first adhesive layer is sandwiched between the first optical film and the layer A.”

In view of the above, Applicants respectfully submit that the claimed invention is allowable and ask that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102, and the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103 be reconsidered and withdrawn. Applicants respectfully submit that this case is in condition for allowance and allowance is respectfully solicited.

If any points remain at issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the local exchange number listed below.

If this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

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